



Immediate Release

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WYOMING HAY PRODUCTION EXPECTED TO BE LARGEST SINCE 1999

WYOMING: The October 1 forecast for all hay production in 2008 is up 13,000 tons from last year and if realized would be the largest production since 1999, according to Nancy Hussey with the Wyoming Field Office of USDA NASS.

Alfalfa hay production is forecast at 1.62 million tons, up 5 percent from 2007 and 16 percent above 2006. If realized, this would be the largest production since 2003. Harvested area is expected to total 600,000 acres with an average yield of 2.7 tons per acre. Acreage for harvest is up 30,000 acres from 2007, but the yield is unchanged. **Other hay** production is forecast at 780,000 tons, down 8 percent from 2007, but up 9 percent from 2006. Producers expect to harvest 600,000 acres of other hay with an average yield of 1.3 tons per acre. Last year, other hay averaged 1.6 tons per acre on 530,000 acres. **All hay** production is forecast at 2.40 million tons, up from 2.387 million tons in 2007 and 2.115 million tons in 2006.

Sugarbeet growers intend to harvest 27,000 acres in Wyoming this year with an expected average yield of 24.0 tons per acre. Total production would be 648,000 tons, down 2 percent from last year and down 19 percent from 2006. Acreage for harvest is down 3,200 acres from last year, but yield is expected to be up 2.2 tons per acre. **Dry bean** production is expected to total 690,000 hundredweight from 30,000 harvested acres, up 24 percent from last year's 555,000 hundredweight from 24,000 harvested acres. Average yield at 2,300 pounds per acre is down 10 pounds per acre from 2007, but up 150 pounds per acre from 2006 yield of 2,150 pounds.

UNITED STATES: Production of dry hay for **alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures** is forecast at 71.4 million tons, up 1 percent from the August forecast but down 2 percent from last year. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.44 tons per acre, up 0.03 ton from August and up 0.09 ton from 2007. Harvested area is forecast at 20.8 million acres, unchanged from August but down 4 percent from the previous year's acreage. **Other hay** production is forecast at 79.1 million tons, up 3 percent from the August forecast and up 2 percent from 2007. Based on October 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 1.99 tons per acre, up 0.05 ton from the August forecast and up 0.04 ton from last year. Harvested area, at 39.7 million acres, is unchanged from August but down 1 percent from the previous year.

U.S. **dry edible bean** production is forecast at 25.4 million cwt for 2008, up 5 percent from the August forecast and up slightly from 2007. Harvested acreage is forecast at 1.43 million acres, 6 percent above the August forecast but 3 percent below last year. The average U.S. yield is forecast at 1,772 pounds per acre, a decrease of 14 pounds from the August forecast but 56 pounds above last year. Planted area is estimated at 1.50 million acres, up 7 percent from the August forecast but down 2 percent from 2007.

Corn production is forecast at 12.2 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month but 7 percent below 2007. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 154.0 bushels per acre, up 1.7 bushels from September and 2.9 bushels above last year. If realized, this would be the second highest yield on record, behind 2004, and production will be the second largest behind last year.

Sugarbeet production is forecast at 28.0 million tons, 7 percent above the September forecast but 12 percent below last year's production of 31.9 million tons. Growers expect to harvest 1.05 million acres, 4,600 acres below the September forecast and the lowest acreage since 1982. The yield is forecast at 26.5 tons per acre, up 1.8 ton from last month and up 0.9 ton from the previous year.

**ACREAGE, YIELD, AND PRODUCTION 2007;
FINAL SMALL GRAINS AND OCTOBER 1 HAY AND ROW CROP FORECASTS, 2008**

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Yield per Harvested Acre		Production		
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008 1/	2007	2008	08/07
	1,000 Acres		1,000 Acres				1,000	Percent	
WYOMING									
Oats (bu)	40	30	8	12	47.0	50.0	376	600	160
Winter Wheat (bu)	140	150	125	135	26.0	28.0	3,250	3,780	116
Spring Wheat (bu)	6	13	5	11	39.0	46.0	195	506	259
Barley (bu)	62	90	53	75	89.0	92.0	4,717	6,900	146
Sugarbeets (tons)	30.8	28.8	30.2	27.0	21.8	24.0	658	648	98
Dry Beans (cwt)	25.0	31.0	24.0	30.0	23.1	23.0	555	690	124
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	570	600	2.70	2.70	1,539	1,620	105
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	530	600	1.60	1.30	848	780	92
All Hay (tons)	—	—	1,100	1,200	2.17	2.00	2,387	2,400	100
UNITED STATES									
Corn-Grain (bu) 2/	93,600	86,909	86,542	79,197	151.1	154.0	13,073,893	12,199,908	93
Winter Wheat (bu)	44,987	46,181	35,952	39,614	42.2	47.2	1,515,989	1,867,903	123
Spring Wheat (bu)	13,297	14,135	12,947	13,487	37.0	40.5	479,047	546,744	114
Oats (bu)	3,760	3,217	1,505	1,395	60.9	63.5	91,599	88,635	97
Barley (bu)	4,020	4,234	3,508	3,767	60.4	63.6	211,825	239,498	113
Sugarbeets (tons)	1,268.8	1,110.1	1,246.8	1,053.1	25.6	26.5	31,912	27,958	88
Dry Beans (cwt)	1,526.9	1,502.9	1,478.7	1,434.6	17.2	17.7	25,371	25,423	100
Alfalfa Hay (tons)	—	—	21,670	20,778	3.35	3.44	72,575	71,424	98
Other Hay (tons)	—	—	39,955	39,661	1.95	1.99	77,729	79,076	102
All Hay (tons)	—	—	61,625	60,439	2.44	2.45	150,304	147,955	98

1/Yield for oats, winter wheat, spring wheat and barley are final for 2008. All other yields are forecast yields as of October 1, 2008.

2/Corn planted for all purposes, harvested for grain.